

PEACE RIVER

Published every fourth afternoon by the Peace River Press, Limited, at the Peace River, British Columbia, Canada.

One year, delivered \$4.00
Six months, delivered 2.00
Three months, delivered 1.00
One year, by mail 4.50
Six months, by mail 2.50
Three months, by mail 1.25

Subscription prices in advance.

SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION.

Monday and Tuesday \$1.00
Half year, delivered 2.50
To U.S. Post Office 1.00

TELEPHONE.

1111 Managing Editor and Reporter.

1111 Circulation, Advertising and Job

Printing Department.

Advertising rates extra on application.

Birth, Marriage, and Death notices 50c per insertion.

Address all communications to the

Company.

Subscribers wishing to change their

address must give old as well as new

address.

C. F. HAYES,
Business Manager

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1910.

OPEN UP THE NORTHWEST.

Two hundred and fifty miles northwest of Edmonton lies the "last, best, west," the Grand Prairie and Peace River country. Between here and there the country is rich in resources of many kinds. The soil is of exceeding depth and richness. It is drained by streams which would yield prodigious power of unlimited quantity. Along the streams stand forest villages which can only be guessed at. The lakes and streams abound in fish and so many of them suitable for navigation. Practically there is not a mile of country between Edmonton and Dunsmuir; which would not now be yielding wealth in some form or other if only the country were open to enterprise, industry and capital. At the end of the road lies the valley of the Peace, an empire waiting for the plow.

This northwestern country is so good that people cannot be kept out of it. Beyond the railway line, miles north of Edmonton and seven miles west—not a mile of railway between here and Peace River. The trail is absolutely the only means of getting into the country or out, for much of the way, and the trail in considerable part is always bad and sometimes impassable. In summer steamers ply on the Athabasca as far as the mouth of the Little Slave, and on Lesser Slave Lake. But the remainder of the journey must be made by wagon, on horseback or on foot. In winter sleighs, dog trains, or muskoxen are the only means of transportation over the whole of the route. Winter and summer there is no doubt of getting into, through, or out of the country south of the Athabasca on foot, or by sleigh, or by dog team, or on saddle.

Yet people have gone into this northwestern country, and not by the train, nor the steamer, but by the hard trail, and in hundreds take it into the thousands. The country is well settled to the Athabasca, while scattered communities are found on Lesser Slave Lake, along the Smoky, the Wapiti, at Sturgeon Lake, in Grande Prairie and along the Peace. Every spring and summer an influx of newcomers into this immense region; soldier regiment of pioneers who prefer to face the hardships of isolation to taking hard trails, or the railways, if by so doing they may have a stake and share in this northwestern country when it is opened up.

The people in this country need rail way accommodation, and deserve it. And it is also to their interest and to that of Edmonton that they be given that accommodation without delay. If their future depends on it, so does ours. Towards the northwestern country Edmonton stands as a pioneer outpost to the Province of Manitoba, and to the whole West. We are at the gateway to the west, and that country must go from Edmonton. What comes out must come to Edmonton. The trade of that district cannot be taken from us, and the sooner that trade is given a chance to develop, the sooner will Edmonton begin to realize the future in which it has been building.

Complaint is heard that Edmonton is not getting as many immigrants as some other centres in the West. If that is so, why? Simply because the open question of Edmonton's situation is that it cannot accommodate a big immigration is looked up from settlement. The first means to get people is to get a place to put them and to provide the means for them to get there. It is useless for us to expect a large influx of people until the country "beyond" Edmonton is open to settlement. And of the country "beyond" Edmonton, the Peace River country, and that is the country into which people want to go. If we want people there, and the trade which people produce and sell to us, we must open up the country to settlement, and the settlement of this country is the first step in opening

up, to give the people already there a chance to make their presence count, and to give the people who want to get there a chance to do so. That is Edmonton's only hope of an immigration "rush."

Unfortunately there is no project now on the boards to open up this country. The Canadian Northern has a road projected from Morrisville to Athabasca Landing, and some "Iron," at or near Edmonton, in a north-westerly direction, towards Peace River, a distance of 50 miles. "Neither of these lines, nor both of them, would provide proper facilities for either the Peace River country, or for the country between here and there, and there is practically "nothing doing" on these lines. Little was done last year and so far nothing has been done this year. Whatever might be expected of them seems to be an instance of "hope deferred" indefinitely.

What is wanted is a railway to the Peace River country, all the way to it, and built without delay, from the road to Athabasca Landing should be completed and completed this year. But a road ending there would not solve the problem. The people on Grande Prairie and the Upper Peace are entitled to rail connection with Edmonton, and Edmonton needs the connection as quickly as it can be made. The people scattered through the country between here and Peace River are entitled to railway connection, and it is a business and money for Edmonton people to see that they get it without delay. This is where part of the \$700,000 should be put, when we have relieved ourselves of the Alberta and Great Waterways Company. If one of the railway companies would undertake the project at the usual rate of interest the road could be put through at a liability of only \$350,000 to the Province. And that we would have a railway which would accommodate more people, and bring more business to Edmonton than could possibly be done by a road to Fort McMurray.

WHY?

Mr. Minty does not seem to be as anxious to give evidence as he thought he was—or said he was. It will be remembered that when this gentleman excused himself from wasting more time over the Commission, he said, "I am not going to give evidence, but I am going to tell a story." Let a man say that if he is going to tell a story he will be pleased to appear there and give evidence. If the Commission had gone as far as Mr. Minty probably expected they would go, he could have fulfilled this promise without telling anything more than he felt like telling and still not have broken the law. Mr. Minty doubtless supposed the Commission would go to Winnipeg without authority to compel witnesses to appear and answer questions. Had they done so Mr. Minty would have been free to appear or not to appear, and if he appeared, to tell what he felt like telling and no more. The Commission in such case, would have had no power to punish, and therefore, no power to compel attendance or to require answers from a witness. Nor would any oath taken before the Commission—nor all the oaths the Commission might require—have any standing in law; for in law the Commission would have had no authority to put anybody under oath. Before any important tribunal any man who appears with perfect accuracy, might say what and how much he pleased, might produce what papers he thought well, or produce none at all, and his word would be master of his tongue. If he appeared at all it would be of his own free will and motion, and if he said anything at all it would be purely in courtesy. The Commission and their counsel would in Manitoba be nothing more than private citizens of Alberta; and a citizen of Alberta might come before them or not come, might give them information or not give it, just as he felt like it. There would be no reason for not appearing, for giving only partial testimony, or even for giving no testimony. That seems to have been the position in which Mr. Minty found himself when he was called to the Commission sitting in Winnipeg with power to compel witnesses to appear and answer questions; and it is to prevent the Commission from using that power that they are going to Winnipeg if they are to go to Winnipeg they had better go with some prospect of being able to get people to come before them and give evidence. Application was made to the High Court of Manitoba for an order empowering the Commission to compel the attendance of witnesses in that Province and the giving of evidence. The order was granted. Subpoenas were then served on Mr. Minty and several other gentlemen with whom the Commission desired an interview. Immediately there was a failure in the force. An appeal was taken from the order of the High Court, in the name of Mr. Macphail, one of the gentlemen subpoenaed. The appeal was based on Saturday.

The appeal was based on Saturday, counsel for the Commission offered to drop the subpoena affecting Mr. Macphail. This left Mr. Robson without a client. But he said he was appearing for Mr. William Bain. Counsel for the Commission offered to drop the question regarding Mr. Bain. He left his second client, Mr. Robson came out with the information that he was also appearing on behalf of Mr. G. D. Minty. Mr. Minty, therefore—the gentleman who said he would be pleased to give evidence in Winnipeg—said he was not going to appear, to deprive the Commission of power to punish him if he does not appear and answer the questions put to him. Why? Mr. Robson has a new one. He says Mr. Minty cannot lay his hands on some of the documents he was asked to produce. A few days ago the reason was that his evidence before the Commission might affect his lawsuit with Mr. Hawes. That, it seems, has perished out, and is succeeded by the explanation that some documents have disappeared.

In this misfortune Mr. Minty is not exactly alone. There have been other witnesses before the Commission who could not locate papers they should have had on file. Indeed there seems to have been a kind of disappearing epidemic among papers relating to the Alberta and Great Waterways. Some, credibly believed to have been in evidence, have not been found. Others have not been located by the parties who were supposed to be their custodians. Some have been found where no one would think of looking for them.

But the loss of papers has not been held to be a misfortune sufficiently heavy to deprive a witness of the right to give coherent testimony. While free from any appearance of dishonesty toward the distressed, the Commission have not been satisfied to admit that the loss of a paper which would have been a man's mind to a degree which would warrant them in excusing him from exercising his memory. It is likely they will make an exception even in the case of Mr. Minty. Rather, some inquisitive attorney may want to know where Mr. Minty saw the missing documents laid.

THE GROUNDS OF APPEAL.

Following are some of the grounds on which Messrs. Macphail, Bain and Minty tried to have the Alberta Commission deprived of the power to compel witnesses to attend and give evidence before them in Winnipeg: "That the commissioners appointed by the Lieutenant-governor of Alberta to conduct the said inquiry are not a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction to authorize the obtaining of testimony in relation to said inquiry; and that the said inquiry is not a judicial proceeding, and has no jurisdiction to make an order authorizing the obtaining of the testimony of any such witnesses."

"That the order made by the said commissioners is defective in so far as it orders the witnesses to appear before the commissioners themselves, and not before some person or persons in the name of the said commissioners."

"That said commissioners have by said order attempted to give themselves jurisdiction in the province of Manitoba, and to create themselves into a tribunal of the province of Manitoba."

"That the learned judge had no jurisdiction under the facts disclosed herein to make the order above referred to."

"That the Manitoba Evidence act does not apply in aid of such a matter or order as above referred to."

"That the material on which the order above referred to was made is irrelevant, and the following are other reasons—"

"(1) That it does not show what evidence is intended to be obtained upon the examination."

"(2) That it does not show that the said W. A. Macphail is able to give any evidence material to said inquiry."

"(3) That it does not show whether any matter or issue of which evidence is required to be obtained on said examination is one which said commissioners should inquire or investigate."

"(4) That it does not show that there is any good reason why the said W. A. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(5) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(6) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(7) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(8) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(9) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(10) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(11) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(12) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(13) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(14) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(15) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(16) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(17) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(18) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(19) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(20) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(21) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(22) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(23) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(24) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(25) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(26) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(27) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(28) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(29) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(30) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(31) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(32) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(33) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(34) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(35) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(36) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(37) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(38) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(39) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(40) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(41) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(42) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(43) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(44) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(45) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(46) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(47) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(48) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(49) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(50) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(51) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(52) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(53) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(54) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(55) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(56) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(57) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(58) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(59) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(60) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(61) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(62) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(63) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(64) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(65) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(66) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(67) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(68) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(69) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(70) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(71) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(72) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(73) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(74) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(75) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(76) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(77) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(78) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(79) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(80) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(81) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(82) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(83) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(84) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(85) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(86) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(87) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(88) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(89) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued to enable them or either of them to attend at the examination that the books and documents mentioned in the said affidavits should be produced."

"(90) That the said affidavits of W. L. Macphail, or either of them, have or has pursued

